



## **FROM THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN JIM COSTA**

*Representing California's 16th District  
Fresno County · Merced County · Madera County*

### **California Federal Milk Marketing Order Decision Released *Order Now Heads to Referendum***

We in the San Joaquin Valley have felt the effects of this prolonged period of low dairy prices, which is a major reason why I have been working for years to offer our California dairy producers the option to adopt a Federal Milk Marketing Order for California. During the 2014 Farm Bill negotiations, I worked to secure this option for our dairy producers. More recently, I pressed United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Sonny Perdue to move forward with the Marketing Order as soon as possible. Video for my push for USDA movement on the Federal Milk Marketing Order can be viewed [here](#).

Today the USDA announced its final decision on the California Federal Milk Marketing Order. Our California dairy producers now have the option to ratify the Order through a referendum. The referendum will begin on April 2, 2018 and end on May 5, 2018.

USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) will hold a public meeting on April 10, 2018 at 9am at the Clovis Veterans Memorial District Building, 808 Fourth Street, Clovis, CA 93612. At the meeting, AMS will answer questions and explain how this proposed California Federal Milk Marketing Order would operate if adopted.

The notice of USDA's final decision can be found [here](#).

Additional information on the California Federal Milk Marketing Order and on the next steps can be found at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/caorder>.